

September Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday,
September 10, 1980

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and
Thursday, September 10 and 11, 1980

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Subject:

"The First International Exploration
of Tibet"

This month you will have the rare opportunity to see Tibet, land of the Dalai Lama and one of the most remote and exotic areas of the world, in a slide/lecture presented by Dr. Lawrence Swan. Dr. Swan is Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University, and a Research Associate and Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.

A group of scientists, including Dr. Swan, was invited by colleagues in the People's Republic of China to attend a symposium in Beijing and then travel on to Tibet, a country in which widespread travel and exploration has been limited to all but Chinese for the past 30 years. Dr. Swan's program will take you to Lhasa, to the great palace of the Dalai Lama, **Potala**, and through the Great Gorge of the Himalayas to neighboring Nepal and Kathmandu. Dr. Swan describes this portion of the trip "in the area of fantastic!"

As usual your membership card admits you through the front entrance of the Academy for the evening presentations and through both Cowell Hall and Wattis Hall entrances for the matinee meeting. (The Academy will return to its regular hours on September 2 and the Wattis Hall entrance will not be open after 5 p.m.)

Special Exhibits



The Academy is proud to announce the opening of **The Gold of El Dorado**, a major exhibition of Colombian goldwork and pottery organized by the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The national tour of **Gold of El Dorado** is sponsored by Chemical Bank in New York with additional support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts.

This glittering collection of pre-Columbian treasures is the largest and most comprehensive display of Colombian archeology ever to be seen outside of Latin America. The hundreds of objects on display have been drawn primarily from the Gold Museum in Bogota, as well as from other collections in Europe and America.

The exhibit includes not only gold objects used for ritual and adornment, but also for household and sporting purposes. Golden weapons, hunting and fishing gear, cooking utensils and musical instruments give evidence of the vast range of uses to which gold was put.

Gold of El Dorado will be on display in Lovell White Hall from September 18 through November 23. At the entrance to the exhibition you will find the El Dorado Gold Store featuring 24 carat gold-plate reproductions of pre-Columbian jewelry cast under special license by Guillermo Cano from the original pieces held in the collections of the Gold Museum in Bogota. Prices will range from \$20 to \$450. This special shop is brought to you by The Nature Company which will also carry the exhibit's color catalogue with photographs

by Lee Boltin and text by Warwick Bray, available for \$8.95. Academy members, of course, will be entitled to their usual 10% discount on any purchases.

An imaginative and informative symposium entitled, "Gold: Gift of the Gods" has been planned for October 11. See the inside of this "Newsletter" for details and registration information.

The American Gemstone Jewelry Collection continues through October 10 in the Gem Room. This million dollar collection of rare North American gemstones set in 18 carat gold was organized by the American Gem Society and represents the great wealth of beautiful gems native to the North American continent.

The Great Murals: Cave Paintings of Baja California remains in Hohfeld Gallery I. These photographs of the works of art by the earliest inhabitants of Baja California are by Enrique Hambleton, Mexican photographer and explorer.

Woven Treasures: The Clay P. Bedford Indian Basket Collection in Wattis Gallery features 130 exquisite coiled and twined baskets to illustrate the technological skill involved in these two principal weaving techniques.

Two exhibits of color photographs will continue through the end of the year. **Afghanistan**, by Academy scientist Dr. Edward S. Ross, reflects the diversity of terrain of this rugged and remote country, and the genetic imprint of the races that colonized her. In Cowell Hall. **Images of Japan**, by the Los Medanos Camera Club, shows the many faces of Japan and contrasts the traditional with the modern. In Lower Cowell Hall Gallery.

Please Note

On September 2, the Academy returns to its regular hours which are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Morrison Planetarium

New Planetarium Show Inspired by PBS Special!

Beginning September 19 in the Morrison Planetarium, members of the Academy will have the opportunity to share a spectacular voyage through space and time with Dr. Carl Sagan in the new planetarium program, **Cosmos: The Voyage to the Stars**. The new program incorporates the most important elements of the ambitious thirteen week PBS series entitled, **Cosmos**, which was principally written and will be hosted by Dr. Sagan, the distinguished space scientist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. The television series premieres Sunday, September 28 at 8:00 on KQED in San Francisco and on other local PBS stations.

In Cosmos: The Voyage to the Stars Dr. Sagan's narration spans early astronomical theories and discoveries to modern day space exploration of Mars and beyond. He also takes the audience along on a Voyager spacecraft mission compressing 650 days into a few minutes with special effects on the planetarium's 65-foot dome. Approximately 200 slides plus film segments and narration by Sagan make this new planetarium program both educational and highly enjoyable, for as Dr. Sagan states, "Science can be presented in an entirely comprehensible and exciting way to general audiences while maintaining high standards of scientific accuracy. We are, after all, a scientific species."

The current sky show, **The Universe Unveiled** continues through September 14. The planetarium will be closed from September 15 through 18 to prepare for **Cosmos: The Voyage to the Stars**. Showtimes are Monday through Friday at 2 p.m.; weekends a 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.; and evening shows are on Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30.

Inside the Academy

Lights Fantastic

See **Lights Fantastic**, the laser energy concert, performed live at the Morrison Planetarium. With the new, all-surrounding sound system, you will hear a variety of music ranging from rock to Rossini, and see a myriad of spectacular images flash, zoom, spin and pulsate on the 65-foot planetarium dome.

Performances are on September 1, Labor Day at 5:00, 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. After September 1, performances are on Thursday at 9:00 p.m., Friday at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 p.m., Saturday at 5:00, 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 5:00, 7:30 and 9:00 p.m.

Admission is \$3.50 for adults for all performances; \$1.50 and \$1.75 (Friday and Saturday) for seniors and children under 10. Tickets for all performances are available through BASS outlets and remaining tickets go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before showtime.

Members are reminded that this is **not** a regular planetarium show, **nor** are your planetarium passes usable for this attraction. The coupon printed in the August newsletter for a members' discount is good through September.

In the Land of the War Canoes

Wednesday, September 17

8:00 p.m.

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

"In the Land of the War Canoes," an ethnographic film classic, was filmed in 1914 by celebrated photographer of American Indians, Edward S. Curtis. Originally the film was called "In the Land of the Head Hunters", but was renamed when the film was restored by George Quimby and Bill Holm. They spent 10 years editing, patching and adding sound! One highlight of the film is sequences of the long dance-dramas associated with the traditional Northwest Coast potlatch ceremony.

The film will be introduced by Dr. Robin Wells, Curator of the Treganza Anthropology Museum and adjunct professor of anthropology at San Francisco State University.

The special program is presented free of charge to members of the Academy and their guests.

GOLD: GIFT OF THE GODS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1980

10:30 AM TO APPROXIMATELY 4:00 PM

Gold, that beautiful, workable and indestructable element is tightly woven into the pattern of man's political, social and economic development. Ancient civilizations believed gold possessed mystical powers and was used in religious rituals and for personal adornment. When gold became the basis of economics it assumed a major role in the determination of political and social upheaval on a worldwide scale — the lure of instant wealth built many nations and destroyed others.

Today gold is still worn for adornment, is still used for religious rituals and is still the backbone of the world's economy. This enduring treasure is the subject of **GOLD: GIFT OF THE GODS**, a one-day symposium at the California Academy of Sciences (Program and registration form follow.)

PROGRAM

10:30 am "A Metal of Beauty and Diversity"

Jean DeMouthe Smith, *Mineralogist*, California Academy of Sciences

Did you know that one ounce of gold can be stretched into a wire 50 miles long or hammered into a sheet so thin that it covers 100 square feet? Ms. Smith will describe the many properties of gold as well as ancient and current mining methods.

11:15 "Ancient Artisans and the Fabrication of Gold"

Dr. Diane Lee Carroll, *Research Archeologist*

Egyptian, Minoan, Etruscan, early Greek and pre-Columbian goldsmiths developed jewelry making techniques which are still used today. We will look at some of the technical problems solved by these artisans who worked without iron or steel tools and see some striking parallels between the cultures of the Mediterranean and those of the New World.

12 Noon "The Gold Rush"

Film/81 minutes

Charlie Chaplin's famous silent film comedy in which he plays the pathetic "Lone Prospector" in the Klondike gold rush of 1898. (Enjoy the film or take a lunch break.)

OF THE GODS

ROXIMATELY 6:30 P.M.

MORRISON AUDITORIUM

1:30 "Gold as a Catalyst: Cortez and the Aztecs"

Patrick Hallinan, *Archeologist*

In the 16th century Spanish conquistadors came to Mexico in search of gold. Under the leadership of Cortez the Spaniards ruined a civilization in their quest for treasure. Mr. Hallinan will survey this period of history and describe the conquest of the Aztecs.

2:15 "The California Gold Rush, 1848-1852: The World's Raffle"

Dr. J. S. Holliday, *Director Emeritus,*
California Historical Society,
Former Director, Oakland Museum

The greatest gold rush in history brought over 40,000 miners to California along with nearly half a million people such as doctors, lawyers and businessmen who stayed to build a state. Dr. Holliday will discuss the incredible impact of the Gold Rush on California's development.

3:00 "City of Gold" Film/27 minutes

This award winning film explores the life and death in ten short years of the last great gold rush into the Klondike just before the turn of the century. The film uses old photos and glass negatives of Dawson City, "Queen of the Yukon."

3:30 "Some Industrial Uses of Gold"

Dr. Claude Henschel, *Metallurgist*
WESGO Division, GTE Products Corporation

Dr. Henschel traces the cycle of gold as it is used by industry today from its initial molten state to some of its specific industrial applications and finally to its inevitable reclamation. Gold is used by the aerospace and electronics industries and in medicine.

4:15 The Midas Touch: Gold as an Investment

Mr. David Broadbear, *Account Executive*
Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc.

What is behind the current growing interest in gold as a viable investment vehicle? What are some of the ways to invest in gold today and is the future bright for today's investor?

5:00 Gold of El Dorado

Participants of the gold symposium are invited to a private showing and reception in the exhibition **Gold of El Dorado**. Light food will be served and wine will be available for a small charge.

Ticket Information and Registration Form:

Tickets are available for the symposium, **Gold: Gift of the Gods** with this registration form. Reservations will be accepted in order of receipt and unfortunately telephone reservations cannot be taken for this event. Seating is limited. Tickets will be sold at the door on a space available basis. Tickets for individual lectures will not be sold.

For further information please call the Education Office, (415) 221-5100.

TICKET ORDER FORM

Please mail this form with check, made payable to the CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

GOLD SYMPOSIUM
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

Price: Members \$5.00
Non-Members \$7.00

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

Daytime Telephone # _____

Tickets @ \$5.00 _____

Tickets @ \$7.00 _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

NO REFUNDS / NO EXCHANGES

Education and Travel Notes

Death Valley National Monument

October 31-November 2

Leader: Charles Chesterman, Honorary Curator of Mineralogy

Death Valley, an area of great geologic diversity, will be the focus of this three-day tour. Members will view the Desert Museum, view the southern and central portions of the Valley, see the open pit colemanite mine (source of borax) and also visit Scotty's Castle, Ubehebe Crater, and the Devil's Cornfield. Cost is \$405 including air fare. For information, call Gullivers Travels at (415) 346-4400.

Red Sea Passage

January 29-February 10, 1981

This unusual and special itinerary begins with a flight to Egypt. There members will board the **Cavo d'Oro** for a seven-day cruise in the Red Sea. The yacht will call at Safaga for a two-day overland visit to Luxor, at Aqaba for a day excursion to Petra, and at El Tur for an air excursion to the Monastery of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai. Following the cruise members will spend four days in Cairo visiting the antiquities of that region. The Philadelphia Museum of Art is co-sponsoring this trip with the Academy. Cost is approximately \$3500 from San Francisco. For information, contact the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Baja California Gray Whale Expedition

February 6-14, 1981

Leaders: Walt Anderson, Naturalist and George Hale, Biologist

Academy members will board the **Qualifier 105** for a nine-day cruise along the west coast of Baja California to follow the migration of the giant California gray whales. Passengers will visit the San Benitos Islands, San Ignacio Lagoon, Cedros Island and San Martin Island. There will be numerous opportunities to observe the abundant wildlife of this beautiful area. Cost is \$800 from San Diego. For information, call Nature Expeditions International at (415) 328-6572.

Mayan Jungle Passage

February 21-March 7, 1981

Leader: Dr. Dennis Breedlove, Botanist

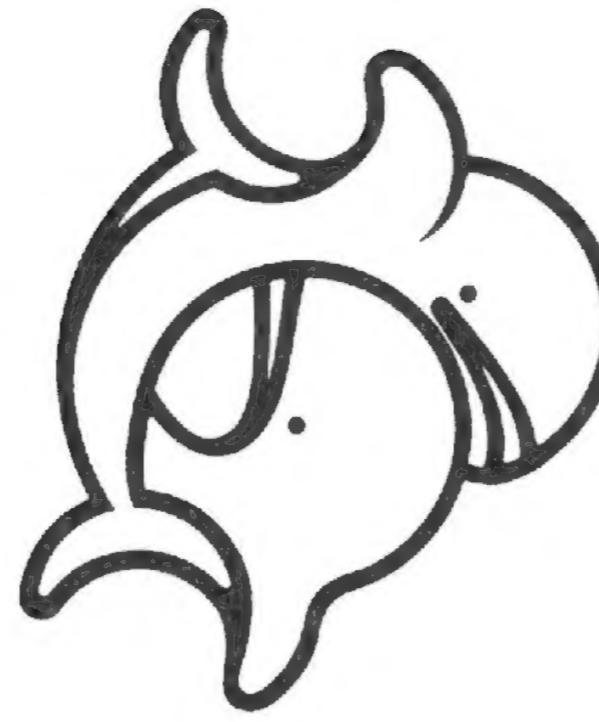
The Mayans of Guatemala created one of the most fascinating civilizations the world has ever known. Members will travel by plane, bus and motorized dugout canoe through the jungles of Guatemala as they explore some of the finely sculptured palaces and temples of this ancient civilization. There will be numerous opportunities to learn about the abundant plant and animal life of the jungle as we visit the sites of Tikal, Dos Pilas, Duende, Arroyo de Piedras, Yaxchilan, Palenque and more. Our tour is completed with a visit to the Anthropological Museum in Mexico City. Cost is \$1575 land arrangements, \$650 air fare at current G.I.T. rates. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Baja California Circumnavigated

March 28-April 11, 1981

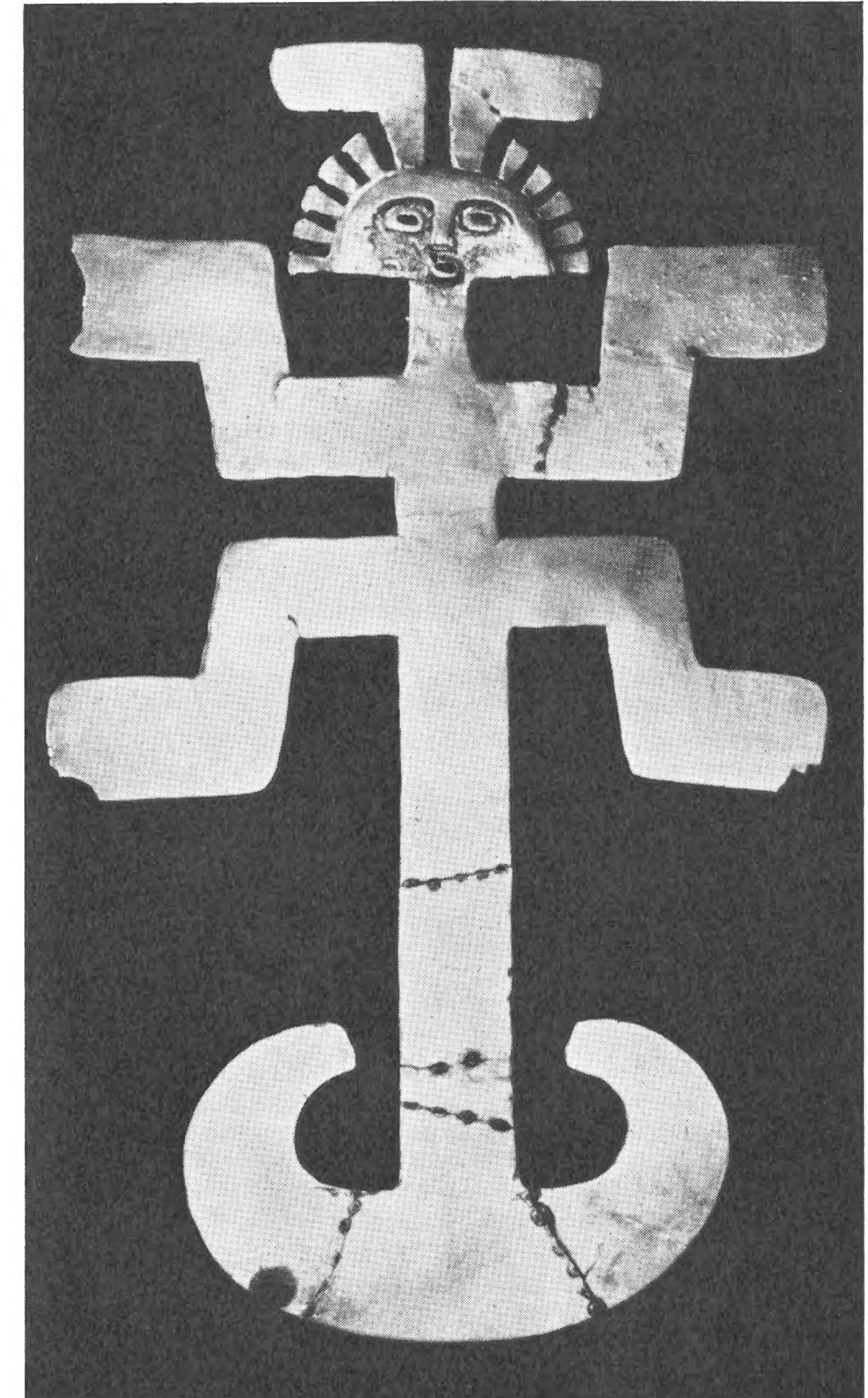
Join fellow Academy members and scientific staff as they cruise southward through the Sea of Cortez, around Cabo San Lucas, and then northward to the whale lagoons and islands of Baja California's Pacific coast. Passengers will board the **M.V. Pacific Northwest Explorer** in Puerto Penasco, Sonora to begin this very special natural science expedition. Scientific staff will assist participants in the observation and study of the whales, fishes, birds, marine invertebrates and bizarre plants of the Baja California region. Cost is listed at \$2100-\$2540 per person double occupancy. Academy members will receive a \$100 discount on the published price. For a brochure, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

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